

### Our Purpose

To examine Arizona Special Education State Board 401 rules, to propose rules that are clear, instructive, and aligned to the IDEA, and to provide guidance for implementation.

### Core Team

Kristina Blackledge  
Advocate & SEAP Member

Angela Denning  
Arizona Department of Education  
Deputy Associate Superintendent

Craig Carter  
Director of Special Services  
Washington Elem School District

Mollie Casson  
ESS Director, Kingman Unified

Jan Cawthorne  
Executive Director of Special Education,  
Mesa Public Schools

Wendy Collison  
Director of Special Education  
Glendale Union High School District

Elizabeth Conran, Chief Academic  
Officer, The Menta Group

Sarah Gamble  
Director of Special Education  
Primavera Online High School

Kristen Hartsuff  
Director of Special Education  
Glendale Elementary School District

Lorrane McPherson  
Treasurer, AZCEC

Kimberly Peaslee,  
Parent & Chairperson of CAC & SEAP  
Member

Heidi Sinkovic  
Director of ESS, The Leona Group

Chris Tiffany, Raising Special Kids &  
SEAP Member

### Our Group Norms

- We engage in active listening
- We seek to understand
- We strive for a collective impact
- We honor the communication plan
- We support working for the greater good
- Our communication is timely and accurate
- We use rubrics to evaluate our work
- We need to learn and "unlearn"
- Reflection is critical to our success

### Consensus--A two tiered approach:

The Core Team will work toward unanimous consensus on every issue. If not an unanimous consensus the group will use a supermajority vote (11/13).

## Rule Committee – Core Team February 27, 2015 Communiqué

**Core Team Attendees:** Wendy Collison, Lorrane McPherson, Beth Conran, Mollie Casson, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Christopher Tiffany, Heidi Sinkovic, Sarah Gamble, Kristina Blackledge

**ADE Support Staff:** William McQueary, Lisa Aaroe, Maura Mall

**Meeting Location:** ADE at 3300 N. Central

**You've got to think about big things while you're doing small things, so that all the small things go in the right direction.**

**GOAL for Today: Prepare, hold, and process the information from the large group on the IEP and LRE sections.**

### What we did:

- Reviewed the agenda, activities, and procedures for the large group meeting today.
- Reviewed the feedback from the ESS Inbox – there was only one. The committee decided that a way to get more feedback would be to have the email that sends the communicate address a "hot topic" about which the committee would like to hear comments from the field.
- We reviewed the next group of sub sections to be reviewed by the committee. John Copenhagen has been requested to research and send the committee information. The next topic will be Preschool.

### What we learned from the large group:

- We learned that the large group had ideas about increasing the definitions to include more information about: providers, service location, level of service, placement, the team that makes placement decision.
- We learned that the large group feedback was pretty consistent regarding adding language that clarified proposed rule.
- We learned that group members were suggesting that portable training modules be developed instead of guidance document.
- Some large group members were concerned about a guidance document being used against districts and their practices.
- Some additional information could be added in the guidance document regarding predetermination vs. preparatory activities, time limits for IEP meetings on meeting notices.
- Consider adding information in guidance regarding qualifications for service providers, e.g. who can provide counseling services.
- We need to get more information about the legal consent provided under IDEA vs. mental health and medical requirements for consent that may require evidence of "legal guardianship", e.g. behavioral health services require consent by a legally authorized person (an appointed surrogate parent's or family member's signature is not acceptable.)
- There were concerns that there was not enough representation of small and rural schools in the process.
- Some asked if the large group meeting could be opened up to others participating by web or telephone, especially those in outlying parts of the state.

### What we accomplished.

- We agreed today's looping out to the Key Advisors and Key Participants was successful. We would like to get more feedback from a larger stakeholder group around the state. We agreed to identify a "Hot Topic" for the field to respond to using a google survey.

The HOT TOPIC Survey for this week is Proposed Rule Language regarding IEP. Please review the proposed rule language on the attached document first.

Then, please answer the survey questions about the rule language: <http://goo.gl/forms/hdIFOSqNJZ>

Notes:

**Rule Making Core Committee  
February 27, 2015 Communiqué**

**Next Steps:**

- The next meeting will focus on Preschool.
- The next meeting of the committee will be 3/13/15 starting at 8:30 am.

**We Want to Hear from You!**

- The committee is seeking input on the issue of the transition plan requirement of IDEA and the discussion of the current practice in Arizona districts. Please send your thoughts, questions or need for clarity on Least Restrictive Environment, Procedural Safeguards, or Confidentiality.
- Please send your comments to [AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov](mailto:AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov) . We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items. These documents along with key documents are posted on the website under Director's Corner at: <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/>